

amendments to LB 88. Senator Landis, to accuse me of my argument being lame with regard to the bill being brought out of committee, it is a fact. The bill came out of committee unamended, in its pristine form, as it was introduced. And that was a decision that the body made based on the argument that the body had not, as a whole, had the opportunity to discuss LB 88 and the issue of the living will. I always thought General File was to do that and to offer amendments to bills, especially bills that have been brought out of committee notwithstanding the action by the appropriate committee. I don't think that any attempt to try and make LB 88 a better bill, whether I agree with it or not, and I do not philosophically, is bad business for the Legislature. I think we have done a good job, to date, on this bill. The bracket motion is one that I will support, although I only have two amendments up there. And I don't know what is following that, I don't think there is anything. But I will support the bracket motion based on my opposition to the bill. I will be very up front, as I have been all along, that I'm opposed to LB 88. I take exception to some of Senator Landis's comments because I reserve the right, as he does on issues, to tell us that if the issue is different you would be here in my shoes. And on things like interstate banking that we take years and years to consider, but yet we get living will to the floor one time and we need to advance it without the opportunity to debate amendments, I guess, smacks of inconsistency at best. So with that, Mr. President and members, I would urge the body to bracket the bill at this time.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I oppose the bracketing motion. I think that this measure is one that should be debated all the way through amendment by amendment. Obviously the question is quite close as to whether or not 49...as to whether or not the Legislature is to adopt living will legislation. And because the question is close that means this issue cannot be either summarily killed, or in the alternative summarily moved through the Nebraska Legislature. One of the primary functions of a good legislative body is to undertake and undergo a rigorous debate process on close issues so that the public at large will feel that the issue, itself, has been fairly aired, that is the public at large that reads the newspaper accounts or sees the snippets on television or what have you. Of course it is important to us that we have an issue fairly aired, and that the issue may be slowed by Senator